

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING & REGULATION
BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Paul Kyle Coppola, O.D.
License No. OPT.1040

OIE # 2006-03

Respondent.

**ORDER RELEASING FROM TERMS
OF ORDER**

This matter came before the South Carolina Board of Examiners in Optometry ("Board") on May 7, 2014, to consider the request of the above named respondent for release from the terms of the Board Order dated July 27, 2006, and modified on June 25, 2007. A quorum of Board members was present. The hearing was held pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §§ 40-1-90, 40-33-10 (1976), as amended, and provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, S.C. Code Ann. §1-23-10, *et seq.* (1976), as amended. Respondent appeared without counsel, and after being advised of his right to counsel, proceeded *pro se*.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Board issued an Order on July 27, 2006 suspending Respondent's license and requiring completion of in-house treatment and participation in the RPP program, that was modified on June 25, 2007 to stay the suspension of Respondent's license. All other terms remained in effect.
2. Under the terms of the 2006 Order, Respondent was required to have a contract with and be an active participant in the Recovering Professional Program (RPP) for not less than five years from the date of the stay of the suspension of his license.
3. The 2006 Order provides that after a period of at least five years of compliance with RPP, Respondent may petition the Board to request that the suspension of his license be lifted.
4. Respondent has been compliant with RPP and with the terms of the 2006 and 2007 Orders.
5. Respondent is successfully working and managing his solo practice, and has been so doing since 2007.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

In a hearing for reconsideration of a previous Order, the burden of proof is on the Respondent to provide new or additional evidence that a release from the previous judgment by the Board is appropriate. Respondent has provided sufficient evidence of compliance with the Order to justify lifting of the suspension and release from the 2006 Order.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED that Respondent's request for release from the 2006 Order and the lifting of the suspension of his license is GRANTED, effective May 7, 2014.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN OPTOMETRY

BY: Thomas E. Tucker, O.D.
Thomas E. Tucker, O.D.
President of the Board

July 16, 2014.